Vermont Stamps	PROCEDURES	Food
Social Welfare		
3/1/97	Bulletin No. 97-7	P-2510

P-2510 New Applications (Continued)

F. Prorating the First Month's Benefits

Policy Basis: 273.10(a)(1)(ii), 273.10(a)(2)(iii), PP&D facing 273.10(a)(1)(iv) dated 12/29/94

See P-2590 D for allotment tables, P-2590 E for proration tables.

Prorate all initial allotments from the date of application to the end of the month. If a household reapplies for benefits within 30 days following a closure, the month of application is considered an initial month, and benefits are prorated.

Example: A household's food stamp benefits close effective June 1 due to non-cooperation; the household reapplies for benefits on June 13. The allotment for June is prorated from June 13.

ACCESS calculates the monthly benefits and determines whether or not the first month's benefits should be prorated.

If you need to do a manual calculation:

- determine gross income,
- apply the gross income test if applicable,
- determine net income using the DSW 203C (Food Stamp Eligibility Worksheet),
- apply the net income test,
- determine the allotment for an entire month, and
- prorate benefits.

Benefits of Fewer Than \$10 in the Initial Month

If the prorated benefit for the initial month results in an allotment of fewer than \$10, no benefits will be issued. This applies to households of all sizes and households eligible for expedited service.

If a household is eligible for fewer than \$10 in food stamp benefits in the initial month, the first month of

certification would be the month of application. The ACCESS-generated grant notice will explain why the household is not receiving benefits in the initial month.

If the household remains eligible, ACCESS will automatically issue benefits for the month after the month of application.